FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE HEPATIC ARTERY INFUSION THERAPY

Who is an appropriate candidate for Hepatic Artery Infusion (HAI) therapy?

HAI therapy is for patients with colorectal cancer or bile duct cancer that has spread to the liver. The tumors (metastases) must be predominantly in the liver to be eligible for HAI therapy.

How long will I have the pump?

The pump will remain in place for the duration of your therapy. In some cases, the pump remains implanted in patients for several years. Consult your doctor about your treatment plan.

Will people notice the pump?

You will notice a slight bulge where the pump is implanted. At first, it may take some time to get used to the pump. However, many patients report they don't even realize it is there.

Do I have to limit my activities?

Once you have recovered from surgery, you can continue most of the activities you enjoyed before surgery. Your doctor or nurse will provide guidance. There are a few things to consider:

- » Avoid rough physical activity, including contact sports, to protect the pump site.
- » Avoid deep sea and scuba diving. Increased pressure will affect the flow rate of the pump. Snorkeling and swimming will not affect the flow rate, so you may continue these activities.
- » Do not place heating pads or hot water bottles directly over the pump implant site. This will increase the local temperature, causing the pump to flow slightly faster.
- » Avoid saunas, long periods in hot tubs and prolonged direct sun exposure because your pump will flow faster if your body temperature is elevated.
- » The pump is designed to be used at any elevation. However, the pump's flow rate will be affected at high altitudes. If you live or plan to spend time at locations 1000 feet above sea level or higher or traveling by air, you must share this information with your doctor as your medication may need to be adjusted.

How often will I need to see my doctor?

Initially and during active treatment, your care team will refill the pump with medication at your appointments every two weeks.

What happens if I miss an appointment?

It is very important for you to keep your refill appointments so the pump does not run dry. If you cannot keep an appointment, call your doctor or nurse for alternate arrangements as soon as possible. If the pump is not refilled regularly and runs dry, it may not be possible to continue HAI therapy.

Can I safely have an MRI procedure with the pump?

The pump is classified as MRI Conditional, meaning certain conditions must be met to have an MRI safely. Before you have an MRI examination, please contact your doctor.

What is a patient identification (ID) card, and why should I always carry it?

After your surgery, your doctor or nurse will give you an ID card you should always carry. It may be helpful in case you:

- » Are traveling and need to receive medical care.
- » Are showing it to your radiologist before an MRI.
- » Are showing it to an airport security official while traveling.





